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Bible Thought for Today

May 2.
DEATH OR LIFE.—To be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.—Romans 8:6.

RATHER HIGH-HANDED WORK.

If the report is true, that the local gas company is sending out its monthly bills for April service several days earlier than usual, all of them figured on the 62-cent rate, it smacks over much of a piece of high-handed procedure. One is left to wonder if it is impossible for a public utility to evidence ordinary decency in the conduct of its business with the public; if the only concern of such a business is to get the last possible cent from its patrons willingly.

Whether the money which reverts to the patrons of the gas company under the decision handed down recently at Oklahoma City shall be at once paid or shall be held by the gas company for years while the issue involved is being threshed out in the courts, is a question not yet determined. But that the 62-cent rate was illegal in the first instance and is illegal now, is happily, a question beyond the zone of dispute.

While the patrons of the gas company were compelled to pay the 62-cent rate during the period the issue was before the federal court, the decision of that court relieves them from such necessity now and in the future; at least until the proper tribunal changes the rate. Therefore, for at least that is the apparent situation, for the gas company to seek to collect additional thousands of dollars of their patrons' money is for the gas company to evince an attitude of indifference alike to public opinion and good morals in business that is exceedingly trying on those who are so free from prejudice that they do not lightly yield to the corporation-baiting habit.

The World feels reasonably sure that the gas company cannot collect the 62-cent rate for April, nor can it cut off the patron's supply of gas for his refusal to pay more than the original 42-cent rate. This money, as yet uncollected, was not and is not involved in the decision of last week.

We would not have any citizen become involved in difficulty with the gas company on the mere opinion we here give, but do urge that the matter be taken up with competent counsel. It occurs to The World that this gas matter, in its present form, is one that should engage the very earnest attention of the Chamber of Commerce. If the Chamber of Commerce has not proper jurisdiction over a matter of such tremendous import to all the citizens of this city as is involved in the gas question, then our conception of the chamber's duties is distressingly erroneous.

RICHARD CROKER.

A most extraordinary man passed from mundane things when Richard Croker died. His career, while not of the best type, was yet characteristic of America. Born in Ireland, he came to America as one insignificant unit of the great mass of foreign humanity constantly being thrown upon the shores of the Western hemisphere, and while yet a comparatively young man, he returned to the land of his nativity loaded with wealth and distinction if not honors. In the meantime he had made mayors, governors, senators and presidents. For years he dictated the political affairs of the greatest city in the United States, was courted by candidates for the highest offices in the land, and influenced legislation at Albany and Washington.

Croker was not the first man to make politics pay tremendous dividends, but he was the first to do so and retire to a life of ease and opulence without going through the distasteful investigations and criminal procedure which marked the fall of every other man of his type. He retired, voluntarily and permanently. And once having taken his hand from the helm of the greatest partisan machine ever set up, he kept it off and refused to be drawn again into the bickerings of politics. He did make his successor, and what the accommodations were between him and that successor remains a secret to this good day.

Croker was the character in life which Alfred Henry Lewis put into a great novel written for the purpose of portraying the partisan spoiler in American municipal politics. Lewis made his hero, or villain, as the case may be, leave New York for a ship abroad, when the mutterings of an outraged people clearly presaged the growing storm, and wrote it required many wagons to convey his treasure, taken from the coffers of the people, to that waiting ship. Doubtless the Lewis picture was overdrawn; but doubtless Croker accumulated a vast fortune while bossing the great American municipality. He was wise enough to know that if he took himself abroad and retired permanently from the game of American politics, so that his name would no longer be connected with it, that the people would not only forget but forgive.

This they did. He lived to be lionized amid the scenes of his early graft and corruption, to be accepted into high social and political circles. Proving, after all, that he was a very extraordinary

nary man. But, even at his tomb, we cannot write it a good man or one worthy of emulation.

WHY NOT THE TASK IN HAND.

In addressing the interstate commerce commission recently, Mr. Secretary Hoover, of the bureau of commerce said:

We talk glibly of giving billions of credits to foreign countries to increase our farm exports. I wish to say, with all responsibility for the statement, that a billion dollars spent on American railways will give more employment to our people, more advance to our industry, more assistance to our farmers than twice that sum spent outside the frontiers of the United States; and there will be greater security to the investor.

Mr. George M. Reynolds, one of the leading bankers of the Chicago zone, in a recent statement said:

Foreign trade for the United States is both necessary and desirable. However, in seeking a lead for the revival of American business, attention should not be focused on the foreign trade to the exclusion of American business. American exports have constituted only some 6 to 8 per cent of the total sales of this country during the period of maximum exports. . . . The key to business revival lies in the domestic market.

Here are two highly authentic views so diametrically opposed to the prevailing public thought and official political action that one is left to wonder how it is that the directing heads of our political structure are so far afield from the solid facts and necessities.

To the average mind, accustomed to hearing the necessity of foreign trade talked in season and out of season, it probably comes as a distinct shock to be told that even at the very peak of unprecedented foreign business only 6 to 8 per cent of the total came from buying abroad. The importance given to this 6 to 8 per cent of trade, disregarding the 92 to 94 per cent, is in line with the Biblical story of the good shepherd who left his flock of 99 and 9 exposed to all sorts of dangers in order that he might go search for the lost sheep on the mountain side, but from the standpoint of sound business as indefensible.

If the percentage of our exports at the peak of war business was only 6 to 8 per cent of the total, then it is probably true that in normal times, when commerce and industry are reasonably balanced between the nations—the perfect state, as we have often been told—our exports would not be more than 2 to 4 per cent of the whole volume.

And yet the nation stands helpless while waiting for international conferences to adjust world economic conditions! Is it absurd or is it pitiful? The notion, wherever it sprang from, that the United States could go on indefinitely selling Europe on such a scale as marked the months of the war and immediately following, is foolish. There was no prosperity in such an unscientific allocation of business in the first place; because for this great foreign business the American people were subjected to a system of profiteering and excess profit-taking which it will require years to blot out.

What is needed is a perfect readjustment of the American market, the American wage system and the American financial system. Mr. Hoover, in his keen analysis set forth above, is as right as can be. The key to the business revival of America is the American transportation system. Not only should the existing roads be employing thousands and thousands of men in bettering their service, but new roads, extensions, etc. should be in process of construction.

The constructive and legitimate demand of the American market, always with us, has never been met—due to the fact that prices are so high that a great part of the consuming public refuse to pay them. But if there was adequate transportation into the various fruit-growing and market-gardening sections of the nation, for instance, to use a simple comparison, so that products could be moved to consumers readily and cheaply, the consumption tonnage of what is now known as luxuries would speedily place all such in the class of necessities and staples.

That revival of business in America, which we have all been looking forward to with vast longing, will not be realized until the eyes of politicians, financiers and statesmen are taken off of Europe and centered on the opportunities and necessities of the home land. It will be discovered that the very best way to help Europe is to put our own house in order; the best stimulation of export business is to make the wheels of industry hum at home.

Considerable ado has been made over President Harding's refusal to receive the wives and children of political prisoners. If the president is to have the privilege of closing the gates to the White House grounds to any individual or aggregation of individuals, and denying himself to any citizen or association of citizens, we see no reason to question the propriety of his decision in this case. These women and children's business lay with the department of justice and not the executive department. The whole affair looks much like an ado about nothing.

And isn't this life heaven enough for any person who will recognize their obligations to their fellows, be friends with all men, and at no time seek to force other people to their views?

Just Folks

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TWENTY YEARS.
Looking forward it appears
Oh, so long are twenty years!
Twenty years to work and wait,
Twenty years to battle fate.
Twenty years to fame to climb,
Seems too long a stretch of time.
When at last success appears,
Swift were all those 20 years.
And their many hardships seem
But the passing of a dream.
Yesterday we braved a blow—
That was 20 years ago.
Youth be patient as you climb,
Swiftly move the hands of Time.
Many homes and many fears
Turn to joy in 20 years.

Oklahoma Outbursts

By OTIS LORTON.

Sign on North Boulder bulletin board: "Oliver Twist was considered a great contortionist."

A dog may not have human intelligence but it generally knows who to trust.

"Baptista motorman shot in terminal," says a headline, but the reporter failed to say which terminal.

Times have not changed much in politics. The candidate of today is still willing to submit to the will of the voters.

There is just one thing which makes poets strange animals—so few of them know how to make a rhyme with reason.

Our idea of an unnecessary encumbrance is a man who will try to beat the season with a straw hat.

We wonder why no longer. The Nefelgony News explains that the reason so many traveling men arrange to spend Sundays in Nefelgony is because of the Smith hotel.

Really there is just one excuse for a man to put in his hand and dig up dandelions, and from what Governor Robertson says we are inclined to believe that Oklahoma City men know what it is.

There is also this difference between Tom O'Bryan and the other candidates for governor—he seems to be playing in the kerosene circuit while the others seek the brighter lights of electricity.

Just because Dr. Hugh Scott introduced Fred Ellis, now of Ardmore, but formerly of Medicine Lodge, Kansas, to our brother is no particular reason why we should become excited over the doctor's race for governor. Still, Fred Ellis is all right.

Barometer of Public Opinion

Arguing in a Victorious Circle.

In a speech at Bar le Due, Premier Poincare of France, under certain circumstances, to recall the representatives of his country from Genoa, made this statement: "When I called the nation to arms in August, 1914, the danger was less obscure and threatening than it is today." We all remember the dangers of eight years ago. Where are there dangers to match them now? Then it had a confident, well-prepared, ingenious enemy. Today that enemy is hunched in a state of warfare taken away from it, its capacity for unexpected military strokes drastically limited. It is from such false premises that French leaders seek to justify their present attitude on many things.

A weakening of any country's position of moral strength may magnify even negligible dangers from foreign foes, and undoubtedly France's moral position is vastly weaker than eight years ago. It is in this sense that the United States is in a position of great power. The Russia of 1914 now no longer exists. Lloyd George declares flatly that if France breaks up the present conference and brings on, as it seems about to do, a European war, England will take no part in it. His view is that France, unassisted, would end up by being crushed.

But if its moral strength is greatly impaired and its dangers thereby increased, who is to blame for it? France herself is alone responsible, of course. Such speeches as this one of M. Poincare depict its moral strength. It has no dangers more obscure and threatening than those of 1914 except those of French manufacturing. Such a speech as this one of M. Poincare depicts its moral strength. It has no dangers more obscure and threatening than those of 1914 except those of French manufacturing. Such a speech as this one of M. Poincare depicts its moral strength.

M. Poincare is arguing in a circle—a vicious circle at that. In his view, the danger of its recent policies, France makes the consequence of those policies an already apparent reason for continuing a misguided course.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Blight on Unionism.

Another bomb outrage marks the opposition of the recalcitrant building trades to the Landis arbitration award. This, the fourth bomb exploded in the course of the controversy, was directed against the building just completed under the Landis award on West Jackson boulevard.

Material damage was comparatively small. Probably it was completely covered by insurance. As in most such cases, the greatest loss is that to the unions which employ such methods to enforce their demands. Every bomb they explode carries them nearer to ruin. The city of Chicago has not yet become so mean-spirited and contemptible that it will submit to a rule of terror conducted by ignorant, criminal and short-sighted men who repudiate their pledges and seek to extort money from residents of the city by such methods.

Eventually the police or the state's attorney or the citizens' committee or some other authority or organization will run down some of these bombers. When they do, the weight of public opinion will force prompt and drastic punishment. Not until that is accomplished and the criminal influence of the recalcitrant labor unions is eliminated can these union men expect any respect or consideration from the public.

Every bombing, every slugging and every other outrage which they commit casts a blight upon union labor. The honest men in the unions which have shown good faith are suffering under that blight. The whole cause of unionism is injured. Men who have the interests of organized labor at heart should help to throw out and punish and repudiate such criminal leadership. With these bombings the unions are inviting the hanging of their own graves and menacing their associates.—Chicago Tribune.

The Presidential Calm.

We are told that the central nervous system was much nearer an economic smash last year than the east ever knew, but that now everything is their own affairs and are accepting President Harding's state of mind as identical with their own. Edward G. Lowry, who has just completed a tour among them, reports that whether in Utah or Wyoming or Arizona or Kansas one hears, "Well, Harding seems to be getting along pretty good, doesn't he?" According to this observer, the whole western and southwestern country has found what the engineers call the angle of repose and is settling down to the same as comfortably and easily as an old shoe.

Of course, it is far too early to think of an appraisal of President Harding, and yet there are a few indications that give him a significant hold on the respect and affection of the people. In some way or another he has managed to surprise all classes of his critics. Those who thought him unequal to the presidential task have found that he is a mighty good working executive, with a grasp of detail that he would be too cumbersome to have him hold the reins. Those who expected him merely to follow have seen him lead. The greater test his duties head-on.

And the larger gain is such popular confidence as is shown in the reports from the west and southwest, the home-folks idea that "Harding is doing pretty good." When a president's work and personality find echoes in the great heart of the people it means something worth while.—Baltimore American.

Well, We Are From Missouri.

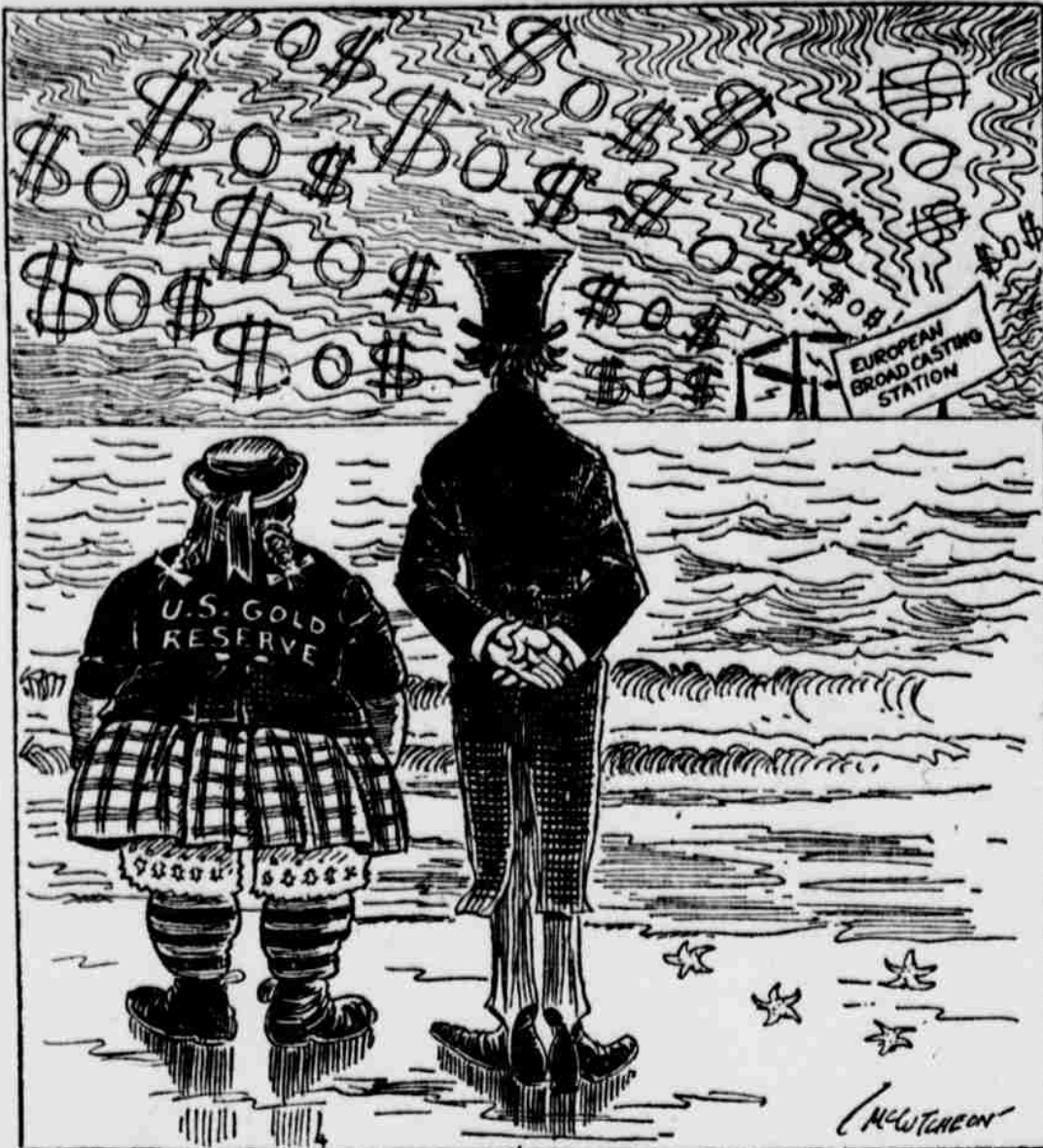
The intelligence of the people is again on trial. Senator Jim Reed of Missouri is running for reelection as a Wilson democrat.—Philadelphia Ledger.

What's Modesty in French?

France not only knows what she wants, but isn't a bit backward in demanding it.—Atlanta Constitution.

"WHAT ARE THE WILD WAVES SAYING, SISTER?"

(Copyright, 1922, by The Chicago Tribune.)



Some Women Refuse to Cash in On Their "Past"

By NORA COLE SKINNER

It is fitting that something be said for the Miss Stone, who was recently acquired in New York for the playing of a former Cincinnati lawyer, inasmuch as she is reported to have spurned all movie offers, and refused to write of her tragic past.

The woman was a nurse who acknowledged she killed the man because she had long since considered herself his wife. It is said that the Cincinnati General Hospital of Nurses Alumni association has refused to reinstate her as a nurse, and she has appealed to the women of New York state to aid her in gaining a livelihood.

It is to be hoped they come to her need. There must be an innate fineness of some sort in such a woman that ought to be acknowledged and encouraged.

Late years have introduced an era of spectacular crimes of the triangle variety in our courts, the ugly and salacious details of which the reading public has been satiated with. Woman's most intimate relations have been the common talk of the street, her very soul has been revealed to the curious and morbid, and her name has been bandied in derision and scorn by even the despicable and the low.

But at the close of court proceedings, what does she do? Does she creep away into private life, asking nothing of the world but that it forget and permit her to go her way into obscurity, humiliated, crushed, heartbroken, and meek?

No. She retains the spotlight, the spotlight that has grown, if not alluring, at least easily enduring, and while one drifts into the movies to make a picture of her unhappy life, another writes an exclusive interview for the press telling "just how" it happened, and a third undertakes a novel depicting her experience with each of the three husbands she has, to their misfortune, made famous.

They must make a living somehow, is their plea—and maybe it will wear others.

Boh! Better be a Miss Stone and prefer to starve—if the women of her state don't see fit to help her.

We had another example last winter of a woman who refused to cash in on the history of her past. It was Frau Schmitt. She planned

Abe Martin
PORK & BONY
ASPIRIN
DRUGS
DRUGS
DRUGS

The Horoscope

The stars incline but do not compel.
Oct. 1922, by McClure Newspaper Synd.

Tuesday, May 2, 1922.

Friendly stars rule this day, according to astrology. The sun, Uranus and Mercury are all in benefic aspect.

It is a day especially favorable to promoters and all who are interested in speculative enterprises. While the sun is in helpful place in the well as to assist the support of capitalists or persons who wield influence.

All who seek employment should make the most of this day's opportunities.

It is a particular lucky day for the presentation of letters of introduction.

Uranus is held to impart vision and wise forethought when aspects as in this configuration.

Aviators have the prognostication of extraordinary governmental interest and assistance.

This should be an auspicious day for launching new ideas or for projecting old thoughts in strong guise. There is to be a nation-wide peace movement of peculiar power that may be beneficial to industrial conditions.

It has been repeatedly foretold that there would be much activity in psychic investigation this year, and it is now predicted that science will make really convincing discoveries.

Trouble with a foreign power is presently foreshadowed by the stars.

The summer will mark the passing of a famous American statesman, it is foretold.

Persons whose birthdate it is have the augury of travel and change. Success for those who are employed is promised, but care in money matters is enjoined.

Children born on this day are likely to be original in ideas, affectionate and popular. They may be careless in their financial affairs.

A word if it's not in the dictionary. O, you know I haven't time to do anything like that, I'm late as it is, O Willyum, suggest some password, something suitable for a wimpy club, sed ma.

Spunge cake, fudge, lady fingers, mackerons, dimitty, peanut butter, sed pop.

O Willyum, theyre noware near like it, I dont remember wat it is but I know theyre nuthing like it, sed ma, go on Willyum, suggest some.

O, murder, said pop. That's it, Willyum, that's it, murder, sed ma, O Willyum I think you're wonderfoll.

Help, im sinking for the 3rd time, sed pop. And ma quick gave him a kiss and ran down stairs and pop kept on smacking and reading and looking surprised.

TO HAVE A BOY SCOUT BAND

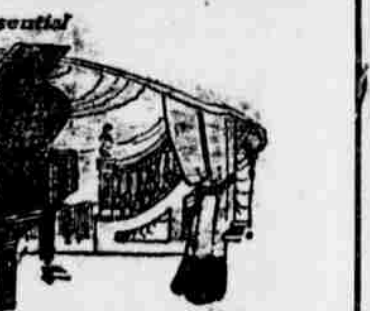
Boys Are Already Working on Their New Occupation.

Special to The World.
PAWHUSKA, May 1.—A Boy Scout band for Pawhuska is contemplated, and C. R. Whitlock, who is director of the adult band, has indicated that he would take charge of such an organization. The band as planned will have about 25 pieces. According to E. E. St. John, scout executive, the boys are anxious to have the band, and a number of them already are familiar with their instruments.

TO START REPUBLICAN PAPER

Hughes and Seminole Counties Feel Need of G. O. P. Organ.

Special to The World.
HOLDENVILLE, May 1.—There is a move on foot to establish a republican paper in Holdenville in connection with which there will be an up-to-date job printing plant. It is believed that it would be a paying proposition from the start. Hughes and Seminole counties are published in Hughes and Seminole counties and none of them of the republican faith.



We Sold Many STEINWAYS

LAST MONTH—HOW ABOUT YOURS?

As yesterday, Steinway, instrument of the immortals, was the instrument of Liszt, Wagner, Gounod and Rubenstein—so today it is the choice of Paderewski, Hofman, Rachmaninoff and Friedman. It was the instrument of Nordica, Melba, Sembrich, Maude Powell; today it is the supreme piano to Kreisler, McCormack, Schumann-Heink, Elman, Hempel, Heifetz, Galli Curci, De Gozgo, Cortot, Grainger, Ganz, Novaes, Victor Herbert, Stokowski, Schelling.

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